

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 1, 2001

LB 305, 468A, 543

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I move the advancement of LB 468A to E & R for engrossing.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The question is the advancement of LB 468A. Those in favor say aye. Opposed nay. The bill is advanced. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 543 on Select File, discussed yesterday. When the Legislature left the issue, Senator Chambers had pending AM1665. (Legislative Journal page 1680.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, would you like to take a few moments and give us a brief recap of the amendment that we're up, and then we'll discuss the amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, for...question. If I'm very brief on this, this won't count as one of my ti...okay.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: No, it won't.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So that the body will understand what this amendment deals with, there are three aid programs, SSAP, SAP, PEAP. The Appropriations Committee decided that each should be given a \$750,000 increase in appropriations. What I want to do with this amendment is take the PEAP money and give \$300,000 of that to the SSAP, \$300,000 to SAP, and leave PEAP with a \$150,000 increase in appropriation. That's what the amendment will do.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Debate on AM1665? Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, we all know that anything said on the budget at this point is just a prelude to other discussion we're going to have on LB 305. But I still think there are some things I need to say on this program, and against it. I declared yesterday that my intention next year is to bring a bill to abolish this PEAP program altogether. I intend to talk to ACLU about the legitimacy of a state creating a program exclusively for the use of private and church-based schools, when they are fund...when the fund is entirely provided